(c) whether fencing of border is one of the step taken to stop infiltration; and

(d) what other steps are being taken to ensure the safety of people of Jammu and Kashmir ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) There have been continued efforts on the part of Pak ISI and Pro-Pak militant outfits to infiltrate more mercenaries from across the border into J & K.

(b) and (c) The Government have recently taken a decision for adopting a multi-model approach for erecting an obstacle system on the International Border in Jammu Sector to check infiltration and smuggling of weapons/ explosives etc. Some of the other steps taken to prevent infiltration include strengthening border management, gearing up of intelligence machinery, close surveillance of the border by intensive patrolling, conduct of special operations, Nakas and ambushes, provision of specialised equipments like night vision devices etc.

(d) To contain terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and ensure safety of the people, Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes *inter alia*, neutralising plans of the militants by pro-active action against them in hinterland, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operations. greater functional integration through an institutional framework of oepration Group and Intelligence Group of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology. weapons and equipments for security forces.

Increase in Rape and Child abuse cases

4008. SHRI ANANTA SETHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of rapes and child abuses are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to amend the existing laws and make provisions of stringent measures to curb these incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) According to information received from the National Crime Records Bureau, the cases of rape and crime against children during the last three years were as under :—

Year	Rape Cases	Crime against Children
1997	15330	5980
1998	15151	5882
1999	14347	1683

A proposal to amend section 376 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 to provide death as one of the penalties for the offence of rape is udner consideration.

Atrocity in Police Station

4009. SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the Hindu dated 9th March, 2000, that brutalities are being perpetrated in police stations and the lawless behaviour of those who are duty bound to maintain law and order and uphold the rule of law;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has also expressed concern in this regard; and

(c) if so, what measures Government are taking/have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Human Rights Commission has been expressing its concern in regard to cases of police brutality.

(c) 'Police' is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. However, the Union Government has been issuing guidelines to the State Governments, from time to time, to the effect that their police personnel should conduct themselves in a humane manner and that cases of police excesses should be taken serious note of and dealt with promptly and firmly. Human rights, as a subject, has been included in the training curricula of police personnel. Induction